

ABSTRACTProduction method of lactose from whey or a permeate resulting from the ultrafiltration of whey

5 The present invention relates to a production method of lactose from whey or a permeate resulting from the ultrafiltration of whey.

It comprises the operations:

- 10 (a) of replacement of at least a part of the multivalent cations of the whey or permeate by monovalent metal cations, in order to obtain a whey or permeate depleted in multivalent cations,
- 15 (b) of replacement of at least a part of the multivalent inorganic anions and organic acid anions of the whey or permeate, by monovalent anions non-able to form complexes with the multivalent cations, this operation (b) being performed before or simultaneously to operation (a), and
- 20 (c) of crystallization of the whey or permeate resulting from operations (a) and (b), in order to obtain crystallized lactose and a mother liquor enriched in monovalent metal cations.

25 Unique figure